

BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 26th November 2025 at 7.00pm

At

Bredenbury Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Geoff Arnold, Jane Berwick, Richard Bell, John Hulse, Massie Piggott

In attendance: Ward Councillor Bruce Baker, Clerk Vicky Hancock, 1 local resident

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Farey, Cllr Libby

2. Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation: None given

3. To consider the minutes of the previous meeting: Parish Council Meeting 29th October 2025. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt these minutes and they were signed by the chairman.

4. Open Session

4.1 Views of local residents

- None Given

4.2 Ward Cllr Baker report

- Gigaclear currently connecting broadband to some households in rural areas
- Crown Court for Herefordshire will be sitting in the Magistrates building Bath Street
- A reminder to sign-up for the garden waste bins on the council website
- ROSPA to deliver training to Herefordshire Councillors
- Callum Bush has left Herefordshire Council – currently no replacement. Cllr Hulse asked if there was any news regarding the TRO for Bredenbury, Cllr Baker to follow-up.
- Shona Butter is the new PROW principle in post
- Call for Sites to be rolled out prior to the Local Plan
- Cllr Baker flagged up November 4th was Supporting Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Day
- Preparations for managing a cyber-attack in the county are underway
- Children's Services have been inspected by Ofsted again. Report to be published on 12th January 2026
- Adult Safeguarding Week has just culminated
- Public Realm Service Contract. Presentation to Councillors to be made on 5th December
- There is to be a community briefing on the Electoral Review
- The Chief Executive has written to the Chief Constable regarding the cutbacks to PCSOs not working beyond 8pm

There being no further questions the Chairman thanked Ward Cllr Baker for his comprehensive report

5. Budget Monitoring The Clerk shared the budget monitoring for November. Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept the monitoring and Cllr Hulse signed the document.

6. Finance

6.1 Clerk shared bank statement to 31st October 2025. Opening balance £9267.88 and closing balance £7756.26. Noted and signed by Cllr Piggott.

6.2 Clerk shared the Bank Reconciliations for 31st October 2025 Including 3 unrepresented cheques total £1817.20. Closing balance £5221.66. Noted and signed by Cllr Piggott.

6.3 It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following payments:

6.3.1 SLCC Membership 2026/27 £112.00

6.3.2 Autela Monthly Payroll Aug-Nov £84.00

6.3.3 Clerk's November salary & note assessment report re: workplace pension

7. Draft Budget 2026-27 The Clerk presented draft budget recommendations from the Finance Working Group (FWG). It was noted that the spending for the year 2026-27 was indicative of the additional support from our NP Consultant Council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the recommendations and adopt the budget for 2026-27.

8. 3 year Budget Council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the recommendations and adopt the 3yr budget for 2026—2029.

9. Precept 2026-27 After discussion it was **AGREED** that the Precept for 2026-27 should remain at the current £9000. Cllr Hulse signed the Precept form. Clerk to send requirement to Herefordshire Council.

10. Electoral Review Cllr Hulse read a letter from Herefordshire Elections concerning the upcoming electoral review for information. *‘Over the next 18 months the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) are undertaking an electoral review of Herefordshire Council. The LGBCE is the independent body responsible for determining the electoral arrangements of local authorities across England. The review of our authority will be taking place in time to be implemented for the full-term local government elections in May 2027’.*

The purpose of an electoral review is to consider the number of councillors elected to the council, the names, number and boundaries of the wards, and the number of councillors to be elected to each ward. Consultation on this has begun and will run until 2nd February 2026

11. Policy & Procedure

11.1 All councillors received a copy of the Reserves Policy prior to the meeting.

Cllr Hulse reminded the meeting that having embarked upon the Neighbourhood Plan renewal the policy may be compromised for one year only because of the cut in funding support received in the past. Councillors **AGREED** to the review.

11.2 The Risk Register had been updated to reflect current changes regarding the renewing of the Neighbourhood Plan and the full complement of councillors. The document was **REVIEWED** and the updates **AGREED**.

12. Planning Parish Council is concerned over the length of time for planning applications to be resolved. Delays are often attributed to the applicant being at fault; however, it seems that more frequently it can be attributed to a breakdown in communication between the applicant and the planning department. Cllr Hulse to write to Head of Planning Kelly Gibbon, to express this concern.

13. Road Safety Speed Indicator device The Solar Panel has now been fitted device and is working. Thank you to Cllrs Arnold, Piggott, Hulse and resident John Berwick for their help in doing this. There will need to be some final adjustment to the post but it is in hand.

Cllr Berwick asked about the placement of the device. Cllr Piggott clarified that it had to be positioned where it is because that is where the fixing plate is located. This was originally installed by BBLP after they did an assessment of the road and the suitability for a device in that location.

14. Wacton Lane This road is of Wacton Lane is of considerable concern. There is a dangerous camber which has been the site of several incidents as well as other places where vehicles are grounding. Two years ago warning sign were put in place at the site of the dangerous camber but as yet nothing has been resolved. The road edge is unsafe and the signs are not clearly visible when the hedge overgrows. Clerk to report this again.

15. PROW Clerk has requested 30 bridleway markers from Crispin Abel, Public Rights of Way Inspector.

16. Neighbourhood Plan update ‘Call for Sites’ process. After discussion with our NDP consultant it has been decided to delay this process until the current batch of planning applications are resolved.

17. Correspondence It has been noted that Andrew Hammond, Ashperton Parish Council, has posted on Facebook and written to the Hereford Times regarding an issue with Hereford Council and their

Neighbourhood Plan. In his communication he has once again included Bredenbury in this issue without discussion. Chairman suggested to councillors that we should write to request that he refrains from making reference to Bredenbury in these communications. Council **AGREED**.

18. Matters for the next meeting

- Road Safety
- Planning
- TRO

19. Meeting dates agreed

Wednesday 17th December 2025 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 28th January 2026 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 25th February 2026 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 1st April 2026 @7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.03pm